



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 26 2009

OFFICE OF  
ENFORCEMENT AND  
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

Patricia A. Kurkul  
Regional Administrator  
Northeast Region  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Ms. Kurkul:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Amendment 1 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (CEQ No. 20090149) in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The FEIS evaluates the potential impacts of the following proposed changes to the Fishery Management Plan: an individual fishing quota (IFQ) system for current limited access vessels; a new Charter/Party open access permit; and measures to comply with the limited access privilege program provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Based on our review of the FEIS, we have no objections to the proposed action.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. The staff contact for this review is Aimee Hessert and she can be reached at (202) 564-0993.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Susan E. Bromm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Susan E. Bromm  
Director  
Office of Federal Activities

cc: Steve Kokkinakis, NOAA Office of Strategic Planning